

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): An adhesive, comprising:

a polymer ~~obtainable~~ obtained by free-radical addition polymerization of ethylenically unsaturated monomers and synthesized from

(a) at least 60% by weight of principal monomers selected from the group consisting of C1 to C20 alkyl (meth)acrylates, ~~vinyl esters of carboxylic acids containing up to 20 carbon atoms, vinylaromatics having up to 20 carbon atoms, ethylenically unsaturated nitriles, vinyl halides, vinyl ethers of alcohols containing 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aliphatic hydrocarbons having 2 to 4 carbon atoms and one or two double bonds, and mixtures of these monomers, and~~

(b) more than 1% by weight of a monomer ~~monomers~~ containing at least two nonconjugated polymerizable vinyl groups selected from the group consisting of alkanediol diacrylates, alkanediol dimethacrylates and mixtures thereof; and

wherein said polymer comprises hydrophilic groups selected from the group consisting of carboxyl groups, hydroxyl groups, carboxamide groups and mixtures thereof.

Claim 12 (Canceled):

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): ~~[[An]]~~ The adhesive according to claim 11, wherein the polymer is synthesized from 1.1% to 5% by weight of alkanediol diacrylates or alkanediol dimethacrylates.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): [[An]] The adhesive according to claim 11, wherein the polymer is an emulsion polymer.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): [[An]] The adhesive according to claim 11, wherein the adhesive contains no further crosslinkers.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): [[An]] The adhesive according to claim 11, being a pressure-sensitive adhesive.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A method of using an adhesive according to claim 11 for joining two substrates of which at least one substrate comprises ~~is made of~~ PVC.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A method of using an adhesive according to claim 11 for joining two substrates of which at least one substrate comprises ~~is made of~~ plasticized PVC.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 17, wherein the adhesive is applied to backing material made of unplasticized or plasticized PVC.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A self-adhesive article prepared by the method according to claim 19.

Claim 21 (New): The adhesive according to claim 11, wherein said monomer containing at least two nonconjugated polymerizable vinyl groups is selected from the group

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consisting of butanediol diacrylates, butanediol dimethacrylates, hexanediol diacrylates, hexanediol dimethacrylates and mixtures thereof.